

THE COMET.
ROBT. L. TAYLOR, Editor.
C. J. ST. JOHN, Jr., Editor.
Johnson City, Tenn., Aug. 30, 1884.
DEMOCRATIC TICKET.
The Great Reformer
(AND)
The Wronged Man of '76
FOR PRESIDENT,
GROVER CLEVELAND,
OF NEW YORK.
FOR VICE-PRESIDENT,
Thos. A. Hendricks,
OF INDIANA.
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS,
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J. D. C. ATKINS.
DISTRICT ELECTORS,
1st. ROBERT BURROW.
2d. S. G. HEISKELL.
3d. O. MARCHBANKS.
4th. M. S. ELKIN.
5th. EARNEST FELLOW.
6th. J. W. JUDD.
7th. L. P. PADGET.
8th. R. P. COLE.
9th. R. P. COLE.
10th. J. HARVEY MATHES.
FOR GOVERNOR:
WILLIAM B. BATE,
OF DAVIDSON.
FOR RAILROAD COMMISSIONERS,
JOHN H. SAVAGE, of Warren.
G. W. GORDON, of Shelby.
J. A. TURLEY, of McMinn.

Democratic Prospects.
News comes from Ohio, that the Democratic ticket in that State is fairly certain of success. It is almost certain, too, that Michigan will belong to the Blaine ticket. Indiana fairly promises to roll up ten thousand majority for Cleveland. Iowa is an uncertain State, but the probability now is that it will cast its electoral vote for the Democratic ticket. In Wisconsin the opposition to the Blaine ticket is so fierce and vigorous that even Blaine men are not very sanguine about the result. There is a fair chance of the Democrats carrying New Hampshire this time. Anyhow, there will be a large falling off of the Republican vote in that State. There is little fear on the part of Democrats as to the result in New York. There is a lack of enthusiasm on the part of the Blaine men everywhere. It was once thought that Jim Blaine's nomination would create the wildest sensation, and that he would sweep over the country like a whirlwind. The truth is, however, that his nomination has produced disaffection in the Republican ranks and driven away the purest element in the party. Democracy is certain to win. Victory is in the air.

Of the Cleveland scandal, in the Republican papers it may be said that the story runs gathered as it is told. The story is no sooner heard than told, and all who told it added something new. And all who heard it made statements to the effect.

E. T. V. & G. Railroad.
The COMET refused to accept a thousand mile ticket over the E. T. V. & G. R. R., the other day. Yes sir, flatly refused it. Major O'Brien wanted us to take one, but we declined on principle. The Major cried like a child when the Junior Editor proudly spurned the offer—the Junior Editor cussed (when he got home). We could not afford to accept. Suppose we had a thousand mile ticket, and suppose we should stomp our toe on a cross-tie—there would be no ground for a damage suit. Suppose the car doors should be left open, and we should catch cold and take the sniffles—dam free ticket would do us no harm. Suppose we should poke our head out at the window, and get a chunk of cinder in our royal eye, where is the jury that would give us damages, when that free ticket is proven? Suppose we should want to jump off a running train and break our neck—the railroad would be fortified by that free thousand mile ticket against our family.

No sir, we are not canvassing on the railroad ticket. We belong to the walking man's ticket, and we are proud of it. We are unanimous against O'Brien's "tear-off for revenue only" platform. Where's Ben Butler? No, sir, give us liberty or give us death, with a decided preference for a pass. If the railroad wants to carry favor with THE COMET, let the railroad urge us to take a pass, then maybe we might pass—but the idea of the future metropolitan newspaper of the future metropolis of the South—we were about to say, the idea of the railroad trying to persuade us to endanger our lives and reputation on a thousand mile ticket is death to every principle of the walking man's platform.

Besides all this we have never abused the railroad enough to entitle us to their kind partiality. We are not mad at the railroad, and promise to deal as fairly with them, as an ordinary jury.

An animated bust—Old Ben.

THE TALAPOOSA.
Ring the bells softly. The great Talapoosa is no more. The other day, she unexpectedly met a wooden vessel, the Lowell, in the sea. She battered the wooden ends of the Lowell and then went down in the briny deep. Be it said to her credit, that she went down with a tooth, yes, sir, the Talapoosa went down whistling a sad farewell to Secretary Chandler, who so often has cruised on her along the shore. The mounting waves rolled above the American flag, the Talapoosa kissed the pearly floor of the sea, the winds sighed and Chandler cried. Alas! Alas! Where now is our navy? Millions of dollars have been spent to build this noble ship, and now, it is where Blaine and Logan will be in Nov., under the salty waves. What if England with her terrible iron clads whose flags

have braved a thousand years the battle and the breeze, should come now to our shore to batter down our forts? What would we do? Why we'd prize the Talapoosa out of the mud, and we'd meet them. Let Germany and Spain and France and Italy and England all combine their naval powers and start for our shore with a thousand awful iron clads. If they want to. Let them come, we'll get the Talapoosa out of the mud and meet them. The Talapoosa is not lost. It has just found a good place to rest. And if any foreign power thinks it can take advantage of us, let that foreign power come on. The Talapoosa will get out of the mud and proudly plough the waves as the giant protector of the American shore. We are safe. Long may the Republican party live. If it never does anything more for the American people, it ought to be kept in power forever for having built the Talapoosa. It is true, the Talapoosa costs us half as much as it cost to build the entire navy of England, but remember the Talapoosa is a powerful ship. The waves of the sea move it not, nor do the angry winds visit it too roughly for it rests in the bosom of the ocean, careless alike of sunshine and shower. Other ships may plough the angry deep, be caught in the raging whirlpools or dashed to pieces upon the rocks, but the Talapoosa is at rest.

Tell it not in Gath, publish not in the streets of Askelon that THE COMET and the railroad have snatched the silken tie of their tender friendship. The silver cord has been loosed, the golden bowl broken, the pitcher at the fountain broken and the wheel broken at the cistern. Alas—Alas—Selah. But if pity be a kin to love, we love the railroad still.

Went down to Sweetwater last week, did a right smart of speculating. Preached the gospel in its purity, saw many people. They had used advertised as "The Mountain Boy". As we stepped from the car, we lifted our hat. An old citizen inquired of a fellow citizen: "Where is the mountain boy?" "There he is," replied the man. "Well, I'll be consarned—not a hair on his head, and big as a steel! Wonder how big the men grow in his country?"

Sweetwater is situated in the great Sweetwater valley, the richest in the State. The town is a "boating" place and seems to be wide awake and full of business. The people are hospitable and very intelligent. Sweetwater is one of the most progressive towns on the line.

It is a singular fact that every Presidential candidate whose name was James has been elected in this country. —Cleveland Herald, (Rep.)
That is not true. In 1840 and in 1844 James G. Birney ran as a Liberal and was defeated. In 1875 James Black ran as a Temperance candidate and was beaten. But it means nothing if three Jameses have sat in the presidential chair. He whom we call Jim Blain by any other name would smell as corrupt.

"How any man can vote for Blaine and feel a conscientious scruple about voting for Cleveland on the ground of morality surpasses my conception, for I regard Blaine as one of the most corrupt men in pecuniary affairs that we have ever had in our government." —Henry Ward Beecher.

Reid and Bate spoke at Shelbyville, Aug. 26th. The ex-Rebel is no match for Bate. Reid is thrown upon the defensive thus early in the campaign. In November, as Bate said at Shelbyville, "His Republican garments will be his funeral shroud."

The Texas Siftings has a good picture representing a game of cards being played by Blaine, Cleveland and Butler. Butler is pictured handing the ace of clubs at the side of the table to Blaine. Butler is running merely in the interest of Blaine.

The Republican party claims to be harmonious, and yet, over two hundred Republican campaign ballads have been copyrighted.

Logan.
No useless coffin will enclose his breast. For to show, in his breast will be found him, but he will be like a warrior taking his rest with his "rail" hanging down behind him."

St. John, the prohibition candidate's platform: "Drink no longer wine, but use a little water for thy stomach's sake.—1 Timothy, Chap. V, verse 23.

Greenville Convention.
Will S. Dickson, of Morristown, Chairman of the Democratic Congressional Committee called the Convention to order at 10:30 o'clock. Mr. Dickson opened the convention in a happy speech which was received with applause by the untiring Democrats.
Hon. John Allison, of Jonesboro, was elected by acclamation temporary chairman. After a delightful speech from Mr. Allison the convention proceeded to business.
The committees were appointed and the convention proceeded to business.
Hon. Jno. E. Helm made the report of the committee on credentials, and basis of representation. There were no contested delegations.
Geo. Smith, of Hawkins, was elected permanent chairman of the convention. His speech was full of fire and "hoop" on up-bows.
The platform was adopted by acclamation.
Nominations were next in order. The motion for the two-thirds rule sprung Col. James White, of Hawkins, to his feet in his opposition. The motion to reconsider was tabled.
Hon. Mr. Fulkerson, of Claiborne, was nominated and withdrew his nomination.
Hon. O. C. King was nominated by Mr. Dunderick, of Greene. His nomination was seconded by Hamblin, Hawkins, Cocke, and Hancock.
Hon. H. M. Bolson, of Carter, was nominated by Robt. Burrow, of Washington. Hon. Chas. R. Vance, of Sullivan, was nominated by John W. Caldwell, of Bristol. The name of Hon. L. E. Reeves, of Washington, was presented by John Allison, Jr., of Jonesboro.

On the 6th ballot Hon. O. C. King was nominated.
At Sweetwater.
Taylor is at the Greenville Convention. In his absence we insert the handsome compliment paid him by Mr. Yearwood, of the Monroe Democrat.
S. E. Young Esq., appeared upon the stage and presented Hon. R. L. Taylor, the noted mountain boy of E. Tenn., to the audience who greeted him with cheers. Bob prefaced his remarks by an anecdote, which put his hearers in a pleasant frame of mind, after which he proved to all who listened to him, that he was worthy of the name he bears among the people of Tennessee. His speech was interesting throughout, being full of deep thought and profound reasoning interspersed with good anecdotes that made striking hits, and forced the audience to great mirth and cheering. His speech was listened to with close attention to its close. Just as Mr. Taylor was about to close, Hon. W. A. Hoskins appeared before him and in a few neat sentences presented him with a beautiful bouquet from the ladies of Sweetwater. Mr. Taylor who is ever ready to any emergency responded in one of the best and most eloquent tributes to the fair donors, that it has ever been our fortune to listen to. —Monroe Democrat.

POLITICAL BRIEVES.
Ben Butler—Whose sword?
Jim Blaine—Bolo of us.
Ben Butler's adherents wear spoons on the lapel of their coats.
If the Republican party has a perpetual lease of power who shall say, who are a free people?
Ben Butler's party is very strong. The Pughist Sullivan is one among the few who support him.
Investigation of Blaine's action while Secretary, toward American citizens in foreign ports has revealed some startling facts.
By the way, has anybody seen the letter of acceptance of S. C. Pomeroy, nominated for President by the American Prohibition party?—Phila. Enquirer.

A sound multiplying attachment by which a whisper in a telephone can be transformed into a shout, has been invented. Butler should buy one for his boom.—Phila. Call.

St. John and Daniel received formal notice of their nominations at a camp meeting ground near Cape, N. Y. They responded to the committee in a short speech.

Pomeroy the candidate for President on the American Prohibition ticket stands no chance to be elected. No scandal has been published about him.

Does the stay-at-home voter know that collectively he absorbs one third of the strength of those United States? If he does, the knowledge ought to rouse him to action.—Ex.

Gen. Butler believes he controls 2,000,000 votes. Why, certainly there's Ben and Chas. A. Dana, they are 2 and the 2,000,000 will be easy enough to pick up anywhere.—Chicago News.

Daniel said in a speech accepting the nomination for Vice President on the Prohibition ticket, that he was the first man selected from a Southern State as a candidate for a National position.

"I am satisfied now that Cleveland is the proper man for President of the United States; and that as against Mr. Blaine's public and political conduct Cleveland is an angled light." —Henry Ward Beecher.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.
A case of cholera is reported in Roan county.
President Arthur was given a reception at Newport, Tuesday.
Southern women are earnestly at work for their departments at New Orleans.
On last Monday a negro named Jones was hanged at Dawson, Ga., for criminal assault.
The clergymen in America are said to outnumber the lawyers by two hundred and fifty.
Major Andre's head has been thrice stolen and thrice replaced on his tomb on his tomb in Westminster Abbey.
The Mormons say they will not discontinue their missionaries' location of their elders were killed.
Moody and Sankey are announced to begin work at Cincinnati in Oct., after which they will proceed to Richmond.

The wealthiest man in Oregon is living this summer for fun in the log cabin which he used to inhabit from necessity.
It is said there are five genuine signatures of Shakespeare in existence, in each of which his name is spelt in a different way.

During the twelve years occupied in the translation of the new version of the Old Testament twelve of the twenty-seven translators died.

The total value of the actual property in the United States in 1880, when the last census was taken, is ascertained to have been \$43,642,000,000.

A company which was organized in Southern California last year for the purpose of speculating in oranges has lost \$90,000 up to the present time.

There is a reward of \$10,000 offered by the French Government to anyone who will successfully and economically apply electricity to the lighting and heating of dwellings.

It is noticeable that the earthquakes follow a course from northeast to southwest "parallel" to the Appalachians, just as the earthquakes of the western coast are propagated along the Sierras.

It is stated since his return from the polar regions, that Lieutenant Greely is compelled to wear the thickest clothing possible, and is only thoroughly comfortable when he enjoys his cigar in the ice house.

Alas! the Talapoosa sank. Efforts will be made to raise the sunken ship. This should be done without delay. If a foreign nation should come to our shore, we would be in a sad condition without the Talapoosa.

Last Sunday before eight o'clock, an earthquake was distinctly heard and felt by people in Knoxville and persons in other parts of Tennessee. The rumbling noise continued over a quarter of a minute.

Fort Sumpter has literally fallen. It is now only one story high and has but half a dozen guns, not one of which could be used. The government pays about \$200 a month to watchmen who keep lights burning on the fort for gales.

On the 26th, in Chattanooga, there was a quarrel between a colored man and his wife, in which the husband received several wounds from a knife and the wife several blows from a broomstick. Both were lodged in the jail.

Mr. Joseph M. Blair, of Richmond, offers a prize of \$25.00, or a medal of equal value for the best essay on "Self Supporting Employment for Young Ladies in the Southern States." Mr. George W. Mayo, of Richmond, Va. will receive competitive essays until Oct. 15.

Written for THE COMET.
The Republicans and Mormonism.
BY BENEX.

The Democratic platform of 1884, arraigns the Republican party for all sorts of sins of omission, and commission. It says: "Its platform promises are now a list of its past failures."

The truth of this statement is nowhere more clearly seen than in regard to the Mormon question. The Republican platform of 1856, says: "It is both the right and duty of Congress to prohibit in the Territories, those time relics of barbarism, polygamy and slavery."

Slavery went under in the first four years of their rule. The Republican party was conceived and brought forth in an atmosphere of anti-slavery fanaticism. This was the food on which it fed; this is the fever by which it raised itself to power and position. And, taking advantage of the circumstances attending the abolition of slavery, it still uses the nigger as its chief stock in trade to perpetuate its power. As soon as the Republican party got possession of the government the Mormon question assumed a position of secondary importance.

And while the party has taxed its ingenuity for 30 years to solve the problem, of how to dispose of the nigger, so as to manipulate him in elections, to perpetuate its power, the Mormons in Utah alone, have steadily increased from 10,273 in 1860, to 143,963 in 1880.

In 1856 the party said, it is the duty of Congress to prohibit polygamy in the Territories. In 1880, after a crusade of 20 years, according to Mr. Logan, against polygamy, with the result above given, Mr. Blaine says to non-Mormonity that upholds it can be admitted as a state into the union. And still this is the party that says it has kept its pledges, and discharged its duty, and now consoles itself with, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

London C. Haynes.
I am an East Tennesseean. I was born on the Watunga, which in the Indian vernacular, means beautiful river, and beautiful river it is. There I have stood in my childhood and looked down through its glassy waters and beheld a heaven below, and then looked up and beheld a heaven above like two mirrors each reflecting in the other its moon and planets and twinkling stars. And from its banks of soft and hemlock, of laurel and pine, there stretches a vale back to the distant mountains, as beautiful and exquisite as any in Italy or Switzerland; and there stand the great Roan, the great Black, and the great Unaka mountains, among the tallest in North America, around whose heights the clouds gather of their own accord even in the brightest day; and there I have seen the great Storm Spirit go and take his evening nap in his pavilion of darkness and of clouds; and then I have seen him aroused at mid night, and like a giant refreshed by slumber, awake the tempest and let loose the red lightnings that shot along the mountain tops for a thousand miles, swifter than an eagle's flight in heaven; then I have seen them get up and dance like angels of light in the clouds, to the music of that grand organ of Nature, whose keys seemed to have been touched by the fingers of divinity in the halls of eternity, that resounded in thunder tones through the Universe. Then I have seen the darkness drift away beyond the western horizon, and the morning get up like a queen from her saffron bed, put on her robes of light and come forth from her palace in the sun and stand tip toe on the mountain tops; and while old night fled from before her beautiful face to his hiding place at the pole, she lighted the green vale, and beautiful river where I was born, and played in my childhood. O, beautiful land of the mountains, with their ramparted cliffs, how can I ever forget thee.

A new fireproof hotel is to have steel beds, asbestos mattresses and tin sheets. The beds will be tongue-tied, the elevator will be water-balanced, the drinks will be frozen, the bell boys will be polite, there will be fire-escapes in every fireplace, the gas cannot be blown out, and patrons cannot be bunked.—Ex.

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